



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
**BUREAU OF CUSTOMS**

MANILA 1099  
South Harbor, Gate 3, Port Area, Manila

*Isidro S. Lapeña*  
**MASTER COPY**

September 11, 2018

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR  
NO. 184-2018


To: All District/Port Collectors  
All Others Concerned

**SUBJECT: Temporary Ban on the Importation of Domestic and Wild Pigs and their Products Including Pork Meat and Semen Originating from Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Ukraine and China.**

With reference to the request letter dated August 23, 2018 from Secretary Emmanuel F. Piñol, Department of Agriculture, All Concerned are informed that the importation of domestic and wild pigs and their products including pork meat and semen originating from Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Ukraine and China is **temporarily banned** effective immediately to prevent the introduction of African Swine Fever (ASF) virus into the country.

Moreover, all frontline customs personnel are instructed to refer all veterinary commodities, particularly live animals and animal products from passengers and cargoes to the Veterinary Quarantine Stations located at various international airports and seaports for documentation, inspection and other appropriate action that may deem necessary as part of the disease prevention measures to maintain the ASF disease free status of the Philippines.

For your information and guidance.

*Isidro S. Lapeña*  
  
Bureau of Customs  
ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA  
Commissioner  
12-16801  
ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA, Ph.D., CSEE  
Commissioner  
SEP 21 2018



Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
*Office of the Secretary*  
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City, 1100 Philippines  
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August 31, 2018

**ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA**  
Commissioner  
Bureau of Customs  
G/F OCOM Building, 16<sup>th</sup> Street, South Harbor,  
Port Area, Manila

Dear Commissioner Lapeña:

This refers to our collective efforts to strengthen Agricultural Quarantine policies and regulations, in order to prevent the entry of exotic pests and diseases into the country through importation of agricultural products and passenger movement.

The DA Memorandum Order No. 23, Series of 2018 (copy herewith attached for your reference) imposed a **TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF DOMESTIC AND WILD PIGS AND THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING PORK MEAT AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Ukraine and China**, as one of the strategies to prevent the introduction of African Swine Fever (ASF) virus into the country. There is no effective vaccine or treatment against ASF, however, strengthening vigilance activities such as strict implementation of biosecurity and quarantine at all ports of entry is vital.

In line with this, the Department of Agriculture, through the Bureau of Animal Industry, would like to solicit your utmost cooperation by instructing your frontline Customs personnel to refer all veterinary commodities, particularly live animals and animal products from passengers and cargoes, to the Veterinary Quarantine Stations located at various international airports and seaports for documentation, inspection and other appropriate action that may deem necessary as part of the disease prevention measures to maintain the ASF disease free status of the Philippines.

May this request merit your favorable consideration and we look forward to our continuous coordination and collaborations in the interest of the service. Thank you.

Very truly yours,  
  
**EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL**  
Secretary

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